



#3/Response

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/10/02
PATENT

In re application of: ZUBKOV et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 01-569/LSI1P177

Application No.: 10/044,864

Examiner: ERDEM, Fazli

Filed: October 22, 2001

Group: 2826

Title: METHOD FOR CREATING BARRIERS
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on September 25, 2002.

Signed: _____

Sue Funchess

AMENDMENT A

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 17, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending.

The Examiner objected to claims 4-7, 9-12, and 15, stating that these claims were dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The applicants appreciate the Examiner's comments. These claims will be amended accordingly, if required at a later date.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 8, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Zhao et al. (6,261,963) in view of Welsch et al. (6,226,173). The Examiner stated that regarding claim 1, Fig. 3 of Zhao et al. shows dielectric layer 120, copper layer 140, and barrier layer 325A and that Zhao et al. discloses that the barrier layer is one of